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constituents in the department of the Eure and Loire, in describing the futile policy practiced on this occasion in France, gives almost literally an exact representation of our present state, "Wherefore was that prohibition of selling gold, when the national interest obliges *the treasury* to make a custom of purchasing it, and when commerce itself wanted it for its foreign exchanges." The policy of supporting a paper circulating medium, through legislative compulsion, failed in France, and in America, and is not likely to succeed better, when the experiment is made with us.

A letter from Liverpool states, that "The quantity of Cotton purchased in December and January was much more extensive than the actual state of the consumption required, which, as might have been anticipated, was followed by a period of great depression. The business of the last month was, in consequence, unusually limited, the sales not exceeding 6,000 bags, and the prices in general experienced a decline of about $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per lb. The inquiry has again rather revived, but in other respects no improvement whatever has yet taken place. The late imports, it may be observed, have considerably exceeded the demand, and there is every probability, that the market will continue to be amply supplied, as a profit can be realized, upon the Cottons which are now arriving from the United States, and it may very naturally be supposed, that many of the holders will be desirous of securing this advantage while it remains in their power.

A practice has, of late, become very common on the part of the Linen-factors in London, to send out linens to the wholesale-draper on approbation, leaving to them the power of returning them. Such a custom being conceived extremely injurious to the trade, and a deviation from the usual wholesome course of an actual sale and delivery, a circular letter from many of the drapers in this country, to their factors in London, has been lately forwarded; declaring, that it is their settled opinion and decision, that no such practice is for the future to be resorted to, and instructing the factors not to send any goods consigned to them out in this way, nor without an actual sale. A farther regulation is still wanting to shorten the unreasonable long credits given by the factors in London on linens. The time is now extended to eight months, and in many cases ten months are allowed. This practice has led to consequences extremely hurtful to our linen-trade. The manufacturers of Manchester and other places in the cotton-trade, have availed themselves of the remoteness of the Irish draper, and while they get short payments for their articles, throw the burden of the long credit on that part of the British linen-draper's stock which is procured from Ireland.

The woollen-trade of England is suffering greatly from the commercial hostility in which the madness of governments involves us. The Resolutions from Leeds, placed at page 235 among the Documents, shows the state of distress to which their woollen-manufacture is reduced.

Owing to a revival of demand for the manufactures from cotton during last year, the weavers in this part of Ireland have latterly had pretty full employment, but there is cause to fear that the quantities manufactured, may be more than the demand for the home market may continue to take off; and from foreign markets, the policy of the state has mostly caused an exclusion, by the pertinacity of adhering to the system of the commercial war.

Exchange on London has through this month generally averaged at $2\frac{1}{2}$ to $2\frac{3}{4}$ per ct.

NATURALIST'S REPORT.

From February 20, to March 20.

- Feb. 22. Cloth of Gold Crocus (*Crocus sulphureus*,) flowering.
- 24. Yellow-hammer (*Emberiza Citrinella*,) singing.
- 27. Common Bunting (*Emberiza Miliaria*) singing.
- March 1. Mezereon (*Daphne Mezereon*,) flowering.
- 4. Blue Navel Wort (*Cynoglossum Omphalodes*,) flowering.
- 6. Sweet Violet (*Viola odorata*) flowering.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

From February 20, to March 20.

- Feb. 21,.....Showery.
- 22,.....Dark dry day.
- 23,.....Cloudy, some showers.
- 24,.....Showery.
- 25,.....Wet and stormy.

	26,.....	Wet in the low-lands, a heavy fall of snow on the mountains in the morning.
	27,.....	Very wet morning, a fine day.
	28,.....	Fine frosty day, wet at night.
	29,.....	Cold dry day.
March	1,.....	Wet morning, fine day.
	2,.....	Dry day, frosty night.
	3,.....	Dry day, wet evening.
	4,.....	Wet morning, showery day.
	5,.....	Showery day, wet and stormy at night.
	6,.....	Dark dry day, very wet night.
	7,.....	Wet morning. Fine day.
	8,.....	Showery, snow on the hills.
	9,.....	Frosty morning. Fine day.
	10,.....	Dark dry day.
	11,.....	Dark dry day, wet at night.
	12,.....	Fine day, wet at night.
	13,.....	Wet morning, snow on the mountains—Fine day.
	14,.....	Frosty morning, wet evening.
	15, 16,.....	Hail showers, mountains white.
	17,.....	Fine frosty day.
	18,.....	Snow and hail showers. Mountains white.
	19,.....	A heavy fall of snow.
	20,.....	Frosty day. Snow remaining on the lowlands.

The highest state of the Barometer was on the 9th, 10th, and 11th of March, when it stood as high as 30·3; the lowest was on the 22d and 25th of February, when it stood at 28·9.

The highest at which the Thermometer was observed in the morning, was on the 21st of February, when it was 48, its lowest on the 2d and 19th of March, when it was 33°.

The wind was observed S.W. 12.—N.W. 12.—S.E. 2.—N.E. 11 times.

CELESTIAL PHENOMENA.

FOR APRIL 1812.

THE course of the Moon has in every age commanded the attention of astronomers. By its particular eras have been formed, and from its eclipses, mentioned in history, the precise time of particular events has been calculated. An instance of this kind has lately been noticed, and made the subject of a memoir in the Royal Society. Herodotus, the father of history, tells us incidentally of an end being put to a war between the Medes and Lydians, by a remarkable phenomenon. Just as the two armies were on the point of engaging, a sudden darkness came over them; the Sun gave no light, and the day was turned into the gloom of midnight. This was the effect of an eclipse of the Sun, and to produce it the eclipse must be total. Now total eclipses are very rare in any place, and the time of them may be calculated both backwards and forwards. The annual foretelling of them is known by every Almanac, and the certainty of the prediction is acknowledged by multitudes being witnesses of the event at the time foretold.

But when an eclipse is to be calculated for a very distant period, such as this of Herodotus, which took place about 600 years before Christ, we need not be surprised at the difference of opinion amongst the learned. On this remarkable eclipse a very great difference of opinion has arisen, and the names of very eminent men are affixed to very different dates.

In a memorable battle at the siege of Troy, a sudden darkness envelopes the combatants, and Ajax offers his celebrated prayer to Jupiter upon the occasion.

“ The men, the steeds, the armies, all are lost
In gen’ral darkness! Lord of earth and air!
Oh king! Oh Father! hear my humble pray’r;
Dispel this cloud, the light of Heaven restore;
Give me to see, and Ajax asks no more:
If Greece must perish, we they will obey,
But let us perish in the face of day.
With tears the hero spoke; and at his pray’r
The God relenting clear’d the clouded air.